



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

# Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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## CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 8

### AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Hot, humid weather persisted during the week with daytime temperatures exceeding 100 degrees in some southern counties, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The high temperatures have begun to deplete topsoil moisture in some central and southern areas causing stress to field crops. The extreme heat has been pushing the corn crop closer to maturity with some early planted fields already starting to dry down. Some farmers began chopping corn silage during the week. Sudden Death Syndrome (SDS) is beginning to show up in some soybean fields. Many farmers were working on their third cutting of alfalfa.

### FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 5.7 **days suitable for field work**. Sixty-six percent of the **corn** is in **dough** compared with 20 percent last year and 40 percent for the 5-year average. Nineteen percent of the corn is in **dent** stage compared to 0 percent last year and 6 for the 5-year average. Corn **condition** is rated 65 percent good to excellent compared with 64 percent last year at this time.

Ninety-four percent of the intended **soybean** acreage is **blooming** compared with 76 percent last year and 87 percent for the 5-year average. Seventy-four percent of the soybean acreage is **setting pods** compared with 34 percent last year and 53 percent for the 5-year average. Soybean **condition** is rated 65 percent good to excellent compared with 63 percent last year.

The **third cutting** of **alfalfa hay** is 41 percent complete, compared with 13 percent last year and 25 percent for the 5-year average.

Major activities during the week included: hauling grain to market, cutting and baling hay, scouting fields for insects and diseases, monitoring irrigation systems, cleaning out grain bins, attending the state fair, mowing roadsides and ditches and taking care of livestock.

### LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

**Pasture condition** is rated 54 percent good to excellent compared with 65 percent last year. Pasture condition declined in some areas due to the heat and dry conditions. Livestock were under stress from the high temperatures and humidity.

### CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
Percent				
Corn in Dough	66	38	20	40
Corn in Dent	19	4	0	6
Soybeans Blooming	94	87	76	87
Soybeans Setting Pods	74	59	34	53
Alfalfa, Third Cutting	41	15	13	25

### CROP CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	3	8	24	50	15
Soybean	3	9	23	49	16
Pasture	3	11	32	45	9

### SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK

Soil Moisture	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
<b>Topsoil</b>			
Very Short	6	2	4
Short	30	22	21
Adequate	59	71	50
Surplus	5	5	25
<b>Subsoil</b>			
Very Short	4	1	3
Short	26	20	22
Adequate	66	74	57
Surplus	4	5	18
<b>Days Suitable</b>	5.7	5.6	4.6

### CONTACT INFORMATION

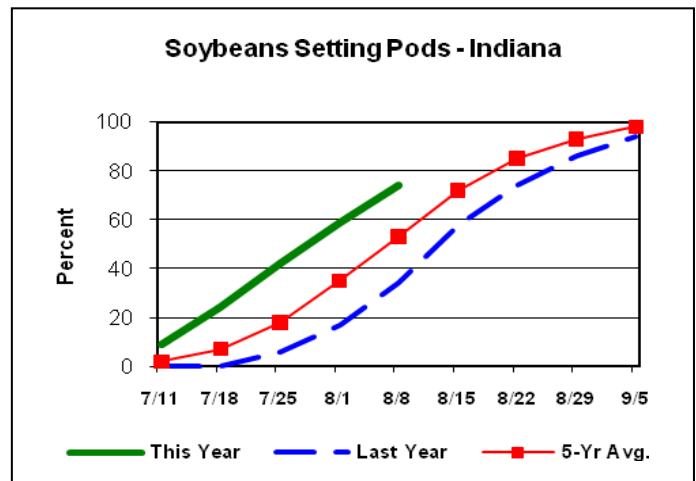
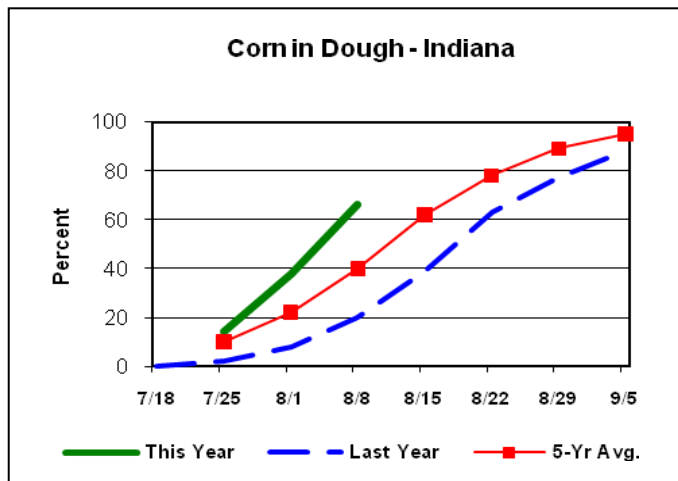
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# Crop Progress



## Other Agricultural Comments And News

### A Strange Summer for Field Crop Entomologists

Written by Mike Gray, University of Illinois. Article appears in The Bulletin, Issue No. 18, Article 1/August 6, 2010.

The peculiar summer for field crop entomologists continues. The summary here offers tidbits of information for a variety of insects observed in several areas of the Midwest.

**Corn rootworms.** I think the emerging consensus is that the western corn rootworm population is very low this season. I haven't received a single report of excessive lodging in producers' fields where western corn rootworm larval injury was suspected. In addition, adult densities are very low, even in our trap-crop plots. Perhaps we will see these numbers increase over the next several weeks. Of interest are the numerous reports of large densities of southern corn rootworm adults this summer. Why has this occurred? Are these large numbers of adults simply a result of a significant migration that occurred from southern states earlier this spring? Is the successful overwintering of adults occurring further north than in previous years? If so, will this trend continue and southern corn rootworms then become a more numerous insect throughout Illinois?

We have concluded our annual root digs for the summer. Although we had some root injury in our experiments in DeKalb and Urbana, pressure was not evident at the Perry and Monmouth sites.

**Soybean aphids.** Although there are a few reports of soybean aphid numbers beginning to increase in some soybean fields in northern Illinois, overall, soybean aphids continue to be a no-show for much of the state in terms of economic impact. As soybeans begin to move through the R4 (full pod) and R5 (beginning seed) stages of development and densities start to reach the economic threshold, the return on investment for a rescue treatment becomes much more inconsistent. I encourage producers to scout their fields for soybean aphids, particularly in the northern third of the state; if densities reach 250 aphids per plant, management decisions will need to be made,

particularly if late-planted fields are at more susceptible developmental stages.

**Soybean defoliators.** There continue to be reports in many areas of Illinois of some soybean defoliation caused by a variety of caterpillars, such as green cloverworms, soybean loopers, and woollybears. Green cloverworms and other lepidopteran defoliators are susceptible to many parasitoids and diseases, and these natural enemies often suppress densities to levels that do not cause economic loss. The general defoliation threshold used for many years is 20% for soybeans between bloom and pod fill. For the great majority of fields, this threshold has not been reached; however, producers are encouraged to scout their fields and make the necessary management decisions if the threshold is reached.

In last week's Bulletin, I discussed the large number of celery leaf-tier moths that have been observed in central and northern Illinois, in addition to some other areas of the Midwest, including Iowa, this season. Tom Hillyer (Hillyer Agriservice, West Liberty, Iowa) was kind enough to provide excellent photos of celery leaf-tier larvae that he observed feeding in southeastern Iowa soybean fields. He found them to be most numerous in the lower canopy of early-planted soybeans, in contrast to green cloverworms, which were most abundant in the upper canopy. Tom indicated that as the canopy closed and humidity increased, the number of celery leaf-tier larvae declined.

Why are we seeing celery leaf-tiers in such large numbers this season? And why are they feeding on soybeans? Within greenhouses, where this insect is referred to as the greenhouse leaf-tier, hosts include azalea, begonia, chrysanthemum, carnation, geranium, petunia, rose, snapdragon, and violet. Hosts outside of greenhouses are most typically celery, beets, and lettuce. The name "leaf-tier" refers to the larval behavior of tying leaves of the host plant together using silk. Multiple generations are reported in southern areas of the United States. Will this insect pest become more common in upcoming years? The answer remains unclear.

# Weather Information Table

Week Ending Sunday, August 8, 2010

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air						Avg	April 1, 2010 through				
	Temperature			Precip.			4 in	August 8, 2010				
							Soil					
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
<b>Northwest (1)</b>												
Chalmers_5W	89	59	74	+2	2.50	2		27.74	+11.50	56	2244	+177
Francesville	87	58	74	+2	1.16	3		22.69	+6.47	56	2200	+297
Valparaiso_AP_I	85	60	74	+2	1.11	3		21.52	+4.52	56	2237	+366
Wanatah	86	58	73	+2	0.93	3	77	21.53	+4.97	51	2118	+329
Winamac	87	60	75	+3	1.52	3		21.43	+5.21	60	2289	+386
<b>North Central (2)</b>												
Plymouth	86	60	74	+2	1.79	4		20.21	+3.36	49	2167	+181
South_Bend	85	61	74	+3	0.36	2		18.84	+2.96	51	2245	+388
Young_America	88	59	74	+2	2.18	2		26.77	+11.11	46	2247	+299
<b>Northeast (3)</b>												
Fort_Wayne	88	59	76	+3	2.11	3		20.39	+5.65	50	2510	+566
Kendallville	86	59	74	+3	0.87	3		18.84	+3.40	67	2168	+341
<b>West Central (4)</b>												
Greencastle	93	58	74	-2	0.21	2		23.82	+5.23	55	2251	+55
Perrysville	96	58	76	+3	0.83	2	85	23.67	+5.99	50	2564	+507
Spencer_Ag	97	60	76	+3	0.20	1		26.34	+7.33	53	2456	+389
Terre_Haute_AFB	98	58	76	+2	0.26	2		25.37	+7.49	59	2657	+465
W_Lafayette_6NW	92	58	75	+3	1.17	2	81	24.04	+7.74	47	2408	+463
<b>Central (5)</b>												
Eagle_Creek_AP	96	63	79	+5	0.18	2		22.73	+6.02	54	2707	+535
Greenfield	94	59	76	+3	0.32	3		26.04	+7.63	58	2507	+430
Indianapolis_AP	97	64	79	+5	0.18	2		20.18	+3.47	48	2781	+609
Indianapolis_SE	96	58	76	+2	0.35	2		21.85	+4.45	51	2442	+288
Tipton_Ag	93	57	75	+4	0.87	2	80	24.35	+7.81	55	2314	+426
<b>East Central (6)</b>												
Farmland	91	56	74	+3	2.16	3	79	23.02	+6.81	61	2351	+512
New_Castle	91	55	74	+2	0.96	3		27.33	+9.52	56	2237	+357
<b>Southwest (7)</b>												
Evansville	102	62	82	+4	0.31	1		12.65	-4.55	45	3068	+531
Freelandville	97	64	79	+4	0.07	1		21.58	+3.72	48	2766	+500
Shoals_8S	100	57	77	+3	0.33	1		23.28	+3.92	39	2572	+389
Stendal	101	64	81	+5	0.31	1		18.60	-0.47	40	3090	+709
Vincennes_5NE	99	62	79	+4	0.68	2	86	25.99	+8.13	53	2821	+555
<b>South Central (8)</b>												
Leavenworth	99	62	80	+6	0.25	2		20.08	+0.42	67	2801	+624
Oolitic	98	58	77	+3	0.25	2	87	22.70	+4.26	52	2510	+427
Tell_City	100	63	80	+4	0.20	1		18.26	-1.17	38	2969	+556
<b>Southeast (9)</b>												
Brookville	95	59	78	+5	0.45	2		19.67	+1.84	50	2536	+565
Greensburg	97	60	79	+7	0.24	1		20.97	+3.08	50	2736	+705
Seymour	98	58	77	+4	0.52	2		18.47	+0.63	44	2499	+405

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DFN = Departure From Normal.

GDD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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## Gibberella Ear Rot in Corn: Post Pollination Update

Written by Pierce Paul and Dennis Mills, Ohio State University.  
Article appears in the C.O.R.N. Newsletter 2010-24.

About a month ago, before the corn crop reached pollination, we responded to questions about the risk of Gibberella ear rot (GER), after this year's scab problems in wheat (remember the same fungus that causes scab also causes Gibberella ear rot). At that time we indicated that planting corn after scabby wheat or close to a scabby wheat field increases the risk of GER. We also indicated that hybrid susceptibility to GER and weather conditions were also very important for the development of this disease. Now that most of the early-planted corn is well past pollination, it is time to reevaluate the risk of GER.

The fungus enters the ear mainly through the silk and may damage large sections of the ear if infection occurs early and weather conditions are cool and humid just after silking. However, infections can also occur at the base of the ear if frequent rainfall occurs late in the season, especially in those hybrids where the ears do not turn down at maturity. Let us compare last season with this season to see where we stand in term of GER. Like last July, thus July was wet and humid. Based on data from the OARDC weather stations at Ashtabula, Columbus, Wooster, Hoytville, South Charleston and Caldwell, average July rainfall was 4.6 inches in 2010 compared to 3.5 inches in 2009. So we did have a wetter July this year than last year. However, last July was much cooler than this July, with an average temperature of 69 F compared to 75 F this year. So,

although we had more rain during silking, compared to last year, temperatures during the weeks after pollination have been on average 6 F warmer. Warmer conditions are less favorable for Gibberella ear rot.

In addition, corn is further along this year than last year. Warmer conditions have also led to the rapid development of this year's crop. This will also reduce the risk of early infection. However, another major difference between last year's corn crop and this year's is the fact that we have more late-planted fields this year. Some of those fields are now approaching or going through pollination, and as such, may still be at risk for early infection and Gibberella ear rot, especially if it rains in August like it did in July and conditions become cooler in August than they were in July.

So it seems like we are on track to avoid a major Gibberella ear rot problem this year, but we are not yet out of the woods. Let us now hope that dry conditions occur during harvest so that we can get this year's crop off early, at an acceptable moisture level to minimize the chance of late infections. Part of last year's problems resulted from the facts that, in addition to cool, wet conditions during the weeks after silking, which favored early infection, we also had wet conditions during harvest, which resulted in late infections. So, again, weather conditions during harvest will have the final say, with susceptible hybrids that dry down with the ear in an upright position at the greatest risk for Gibberella ear rot, if it does rain during harvest.

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